

information collection. These comments will help us:

(1) Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through use, as appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical, and other collection technologies; e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

*Estimate of burden:* The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.4654 hours per response.

*Respondents:* State animal health officials, producers and owners (including animal and feedlot owners), and accredited veterinarians.

*Estimated annual number of respondents:* 5,000.

*Estimated annual number of responses per respondent:* 11.9532.

*Estimated annual number of responses:* 59,766.

*Estimated total annual burden on respondents:* 27,818 hours. (Due to averaging, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the reporting burden per response.)

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Done in Washington, DC, this 17th day of August 2012.

**Kevin Shea,**

*Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.*

[FR Doc. 2012-20737 Filed 8-22-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-34-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS-2012-0056]

#### Notice of Request for Extension of Approval of an Information Collection; Importation of Swine Hides, Bird Trophies, and Deer Hides

**AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Extension of approval of an information collection; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's intention to request an extension of approval of an information collection associated with the importation of swine hides, bird trophies, and deer hides.

**DATES:** We will consider all comments that we receive on or before October 22, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov/#!documentDetail;D=APHIS-2012-0056-0001>.

- *Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:* Send your comment to Docket No. APHIS-2012-0056, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A-03.8, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238.

Supporting documents and any comments we receive on this docket may be viewed at <http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=APHIS-2012-0056> or in our reading room, which is located in room 1141 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 799-7039 before coming.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information on the regulations for the importation of swine hides, bird trophies, and deer hides, contact Dr. Tracey Butler, Assistant Director, NCIE, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 40, Riverdale, MD 20737; (301) 851-3340. For copies of more detailed information on the information collection, contact Mrs. Celeste Sickles, APHIS' Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 851-2908.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Importation of Swine Hides, Bird Trophies, and Deer Hides.

*OMB Number:* 0579-0307.

*Type of Request:* Extension of approval of an information collection.

*Abstract:* Under the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8301 *et seq.*), the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the United States Department of Agriculture is authorized, among other things, to prohibit or restrict the importation and interstate movement of animals and animal products to prevent the introduction

into and dissemination within the United States of livestock diseases and pests. To carry out this mission, APHIS regulates the importation of animals and animal products into the United States. The regulations are contained in title 9, parts 91 through 99, of the Code of Federal Regulations.

The regulations in 9 CFR part 95 (referred to below as the regulations) prohibit or restrict the importation of specified animal products into the United States to prevent the introduction into the U.S. livestock population of certain contagious animal diseases. Section 95.5 of the regulations contains, among other things, specific processing, recordkeeping, and certification requirements for untanned hides and skins and bird trophies.

The regulations require that shipments of hides be accompanied by certificates showing their origin and certifying that the hides are from areas free of certain animal diseases. Shipments of ruminant hides from Mexico must be accompanied by written statements indicating that the hides were frozen for 24 hours and treated for ticks. Shipments of bird trophies must be accompanied by certificates of origin certifying that the trophies are from regions free of exotic Newcastle disease and highly pathogenic avian influenza. These activities help ensure that the products do not harbor disease or ticks.

We have increased the estimated annual burden after reviewing the regulations and current data. When comparing the regulations with the information collection activities, we found that the reporting of certificates for hides and skins from certain regions was omitted from past information collections.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve our use of these information collection activities for 3 years.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning our information collection. These comments will help us:

(1) Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through use, as

appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical, and other collection technologies; e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

*Estimate of burden:* The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.1997 hours per response.

*Respondents:* Federal animal health authorities in certain regions and foreign exporters of certain animal byproducts.

*Estimated annual number of respondents:* 191.

*Estimated annual number of responses per respondent:* 3.7225.

*Estimated annual number of responses:* 711.

*Estimated total annual burden on respondents:* 142 hours. (Due to averaging, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the reporting burden per response.)

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Done in Washington, DC, this 17th day of August 2012.

**Kevin Shea,**

*Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.*

[FR Doc. 2012-20739 Filed 8-22-12; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS-2012-0062]

#### Notice of Request for Extension of Approval of an Information Collection; Foreign Quarantine Notices

**AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Extension of approval of an information collection; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's intention to request an extension of approval of an information collection associated with regulations to prevent the introduction or spread of foreign plant pests into or within the United States.

**DATES:** We will consider all comments that we receive on or before October 22, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov/>

*#!documentDetail;D=APHIS-2012-0062-0001.*

• *Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:* Send your comment to Docket No. APHIS-2012-0062, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A-03.8, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238.

Supporting documents and any comments we receive on this docket may be viewed at <http://www.regulations.gov/> *#!docketDetail;D=APHIS-2012-0062* or in our reading room, which is located in room 1141 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 799-7039 before coming.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information on foreign quarantine regulations, contact Mr. Matthew Rhoads, Director, Regulation, Permit, and Manuals, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 156, Riverdale, MD 20737; (301) 851-2018. For copies of more detailed information on the information collection, contact Mrs. Celeste Sickles, APHIS' Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 851-2908.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Foreign Quarantine Notices.

*OMB Number:* 0579-0049.

*Type of Request:* Extension of approval of an information collection.

*Abstract:* The Plant Protection Act (PPA, 7 U.S.C. 7701 *et seq.*) authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to restrict or prohibit the importation, entry, or interstate movement of plants, plant products, and other articles to prevent the introduction of plant pests into the United States or their dissemination within the United States. This authority has been delegated to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), which administers regulations to implement the PPA. Regulations governing the importation of plants, fruits, vegetables, roots, bulbs, seeds, unmanufactured wood articles, and other plant products are contained in 7 CFR part 319, "Foreign Quarantine Notices."

In administering the regulations, APHIS collects information from persons both within and outside the United States who are involved in growing, packing, handling, transporting, and importing articles regulated under part 319.

For example, many plants or plant products may not be imported until the person wishing to import them receives a permit from APHIS. The person

wishing to import these items must first fill out a permit application. We consider the permit application process extremely important, since the information on the application enables us to determine whether the items for import represent a potential pest threat to U.S. agriculture.

Under certain circumstances, we also require importers to supply us with other types of information. We require, for example, that containers used to import various plants or plant products be marked in a certain way so that our inspectors can accurately identify them and match them to their accompanying documentation.

We require that certain shipments be accompanied by a phytosanitary inspection certificate, which is a document completed by plant health officials in the originating country that attests to the condition of the shipment with respect to plant pests at the time it was inspected prior to its export to the United States. We use this important information as a guide in determining the intensity of the inspection we must conduct when the shipment arrives in the United States.

This and other information we collect is vital to helping us ensure that imported plants and plant products do not harbor plant pests or noxious weeds that, if introduced into the United States, could cause millions of dollars in damage to U.S. agriculture.

We are asking OMB to approve our use of these information collection activities for 3 years.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning our information collection. These comments will help us:

(1) Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through use, as appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical, and other collection technologies; e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

*Estimate of burden:* The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.2993 hours per response.